

LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE



For the Technical Direction of the LTPP Program



Program Area: General Operations **Directive Number:** GO-27
Date: November 1, 2000 **Supersedes:** N/A
Subject: Changes to Test Section Monitoring Category

Introduction

This directive provides instructions to the Long-Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) Regional Coordination Office Contractors (RCOCs) for implementing changes in the monitoring category of LTPP test sections. Monitoring categories, as they presently exist, are defined in ***LTPP Directive GO-21: LTPP Pavement Performance Monitoring Adjustments***. Four categories are specified in that directive:

- S1 category (SPS 1 & 2 core test sections)
- S2 category (SPS 5, 6 & 8 core test sections)
- G category (SPS 9 & GPS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6B/C/D/S, 7B/C/D/F/R/S, and 9 test sections)
- C or close-out category (SPS 3, 4 & 7 and GPS 6A & 7A test sections).

These categories resulted from the monitoring adjustment phase of the LTPP Program Improvement Campaign, which was intended to achieve a balance in the data available for a test section relative to their use in development, verification, evaluation and validation of pavement performance prediction procedures while preserving the ability to support other types of pavement related investigations and analyses.

Initial assignment of a monitoring category to each LTPP test section was done on the basis of its experiment designation. Further refinements were made based upon the assessment of test section compliance with the minimum data completeness requirements contained in ***LTPP Directive GO-19: LTPP Data Completeness Assessment and Monitoring Adjustment Process*** and the willingness of highway agencies to support monitoring activities.

Once assigned to a given monitoring category, monitoring on that test section was to be

performed in accordance with the specifications provided in LTPP Directive GO-21. In addition, it was assumed that missing data for which the highway agency had shown proof of intent during the data resolution effort would be received and that highway agencies would live up to their level of commitment in support of the monitoring activities.

There are, however, some test sections for which missing data have not been received as required, thus their monitoring category must be changed to reflect those conditions. In addition, it is anticipated that further changes to the monitoring category of other test sections will be required because of data completeness issues.

Test Section Monitoring Change

It is the responsibility of the LTPP Regional Coordination Office Contractors (RCOCs) to report conditions which warrant changes in test section monitoring category for approval by the FHWA. For example, if materials data for a group of SPS-1 test sections in the S1 category will not be supplied by the responsible agency, then the RCOC should request a monitoring category change to C.

Changes to test section monitoring category are required if one of the conditions listed below occurs; the RCOCs are reminded to carefully review LTPP Directives GO-19 and 21 for the data completeness and monitoring requirements noted under each condition.

- Data completeness of test sections is satisfactory for current monitoring category, but highways agency desires to support a lower monitoring intensity level – category of test section shall be changed to reflect monitoring intensity highway agency is willing to support.
- Test section data fails to meet minimum requirements for pavement structure, inventory, pavement monitoring, climate or past traffic – category of test section shall be changed to the C category unless otherwise approved by the appropriate FHWA LTPP Team Leader.
- Experiment designation of test section changes due to application of rehabilitation activity or other reason – category of test section shall be changed to reflect new experiment designation (assumes all data completeness and monitoring requirements for the new monitoring category are met).
- If the minimum data requirements are not met for a test section in the C monitoring category, the RCOCs shall submit an IMS Form 1 requesting a change in test section status to Out-of-Study. An explanation for the cause of this request shall be provided on the form.
- Test section goes out of study by natural causes – a new category will not be assigned to the test section.

Most of the above conditions result in a reduction in monitoring intensity. There are, however, cases where the test section can move up in monitoring intensity. For example, a S1 project deficient in materials data which was initially assigned a C monitoring category could move back to S1 if the highway agency provides the missing materials data and agrees to support the increased monitoring intensity.

All changes to test section monitoring category must be approved by the FHWA LTPP Team Leader. Change requests must be accompanied by a completed version of the attached IMS Form 3 “Change to Test Section Monitoring Category.” The instructions below shall be followed for completion of the form:

State Code

State code is the number used to identify state or Canadian province in which the pavement test section is located. The codes presented in Table A.1 of the LTPP Data Collection Guide shall be used.

SHRP ID

SHRP ID is the four digit identification number assigned to the test section by the LTPP program. This number is used to facilitate database referencing and field identification. If the change request applies to a group of SPS test sections located on the same site, the SPS project level SHRP ID, ending with 00, may be used.

Date

Enter date the form was submitted.

Region

Enter number code as shown on the form corresponding to the LTPP region in which the test section is located.

Current Monitoring Category

Enter code as shown on the form corresponding to the existing monitoring category of the test section.

Monitoring Category Change Date

Enter effective end date for current monitoring category, which also corresponds with the effective start date for the new monitoring category.

New Monitoring Category

Enter code as shown on form corresponding to the new monitoring category of the test section.

Reason(s) for Change

Enter comment explaining reason for change in monitoring category for test section; refer to list of conditions for change presented earlier in this directive. Additional information on separate pages can be provided as needed.

The completed form shall be submitted to FHWA with a copy to the LTPP Technical Support Services Contractor. On approval by FHWA, the region is required to implement the monitoring category change in the IMS ***MON_CATEGORY*** table. Instructions for changing test section monitoring category in the IMS will be provided under separate cover.

Prepared by: TSSC

Approved by:

Aramis López
LTPP Team Leader

LTPP Test Section Monitoring Category IMS Form 3 Monitoring Category Change Request	State Code [__ __] SHRP ID [__ __ __ __] Date (dd/mmm/yyyy) [__ __ / __ __ __ / __ __ __ __]
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- Region (1 - North Atlantic; 2 - North Central; 3 - Southern; 4 - Western) [__]
- Current Monitoring Category (S1, S2, G or C) [__]
- Monitoring Category Change Date (dd/mmm/yyyy) [__ / __ __ / __ __]
- New Monitoring Category (S1, S2, G or C) [__]

5. Reason(s) for Change

6. Other change documentation attached? (Y/N) [__]

If yes, number of pages [__]

7. 9 Approved as submitted 9 Approved change as noted under approval comments 9 Not Approved

8. Approval comments

Requestor	_____	Organization	_____
Approved by	_____	Organization	_____
Approval date	_____		